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## PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, APRIL, 1947.

This bulletin has been prepared from detailed tabulations, made available by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of the Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of April, 1947. The tabulations show districts of residence, together with causes of unemployment and industries within each district. The information which follows covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for the benefit are awaiting consideration or those who do not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of the total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded.

## Comparison with Previous Months.

The April figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 4,698 males and 149 females, the total of 4,847 being 2,745 less than the peak figure of 7,592 for February, but 1,947 over October, 1946.

<u>End of Month,</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1946 - October	..	2,814	86	2,900
November	..	3,570	94	3,664
December	..	5,971	168	6,139
1947 - January	..	7,262	228	7,490
February	..	7,394	198	7,592
March	..	6,505	184	6,689
April	..	4,698	149	4,847

Figures earlier than October do not give a normal comparison as they were inflated by strikes of earlier months; whilst the figures for the early months of 1947 are considerably affected by seasonal unemployment. February recorded the highest number on unemployment benefit for this season; and, with seasonal industries re-employing displaced workers, the number in April was rapidly reaching a much lower level.

The number of females receiving benefit at the end of April was 149, compared with 184 for March. The Rockhampton District figure, 40, although much less than the March figure of 74, was still the highest figure recorded for any one district for the month. Brisbane District had 33 females drawing unemployment benefit at the end of April, Mackay 18, Bundaberg 16, and the balance of 42 was distributed throughout the rest of the State.

Causes of unemployment are given below for the months of October, February, March, and April, together with the decrease during April for each cause.

<u>Cause of Unemployment.</u>	<u>October.</u> 1946	<u>February.</u> 1947	<u>March.</u> 1947	<u>April.</u> 1947	<u>Decrease in April.</u>
Medical unfitness for type of work, work too heavy	109	100	97	95	2
Inefficiency, incompetence	112	144	133	109	24
Establishment closed, reduction of staff	..	491	854	856	115
Replaced by re-instated servicemen	..	116	131	106	7
Shortage of Materials	..	130	252	250	63
Seasonal work and weather conditions	..	276	3,327	2,598	1,109
Unusual work	..	495	958	1,010	214
Discharged or laid off for other reasons	..	438	514	397	101
Left because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc.	231	440	429	379	50
Left for other reasons	179	324	314	263	51
Previously employed ..	323	548	499	393	106
	2,900	7,592	6,689	4,847	1,842

The number of persons drawing unemployment benefit in March due to the seasonal nature of their work decreased in April by 1,109, with smaller decreases for other causes. The peak of seasonal unemployment for the State was passed in February, although it was March before the northern sugar districts recorded their highest figures; and it was the decreases in these districts during April which accounted for most of the 1,109 decrease in the seasonal work. The movements are illustrated in the following statement which shows the number of the number of persons drawing benefit in each district in October, 1946, the number in the month up to March, 1947, showing the highest level of unemployment, and the number in April, 1947, together with the increase from October, 1946, to the seasonal peak, and the subsequent decrease. It will be seen that southern districts had generally reabsorbed seasonally displaced labour before April, but that the northern districts still had a substantial pool of labour waiting for reabsorption at that date.

<u>District.</u>	<u>October, 1946.</u>	<u>Peak of Seasonal Unemployment to April, 1947.</u>	<u>April, 1947.</u>	<u>Increase October to peak.</u>	<u>Decrease April.</u>
Brisbane	..	1,401	2,065 (Feb. 1947)	1,523	664
Ipswich	..	154	190 (Dec. 1946)	63	36
Gympie	..	21	30 (Feb. 1947)	16	9
Maryborough	..	127	221 (Jan. 1947)	82	94
Bundaberg	..	101	596 (Jan. 1947)	388	495
Toowoomba	..	94	177 (Feb. 1947)	108	83
Warwick	..	23	42 (Dec. 1946)	19	19
Roma	..	10	24 (Dec. 1946)	3	14
Charleville	..	44	75 (Dec. 1946)	8	31
Rockhampton	..	345	1,462 (Jan. 1947)	419	1,117
Emerald	..	1	10 (Jan. 1947)	5	9
Longreach	..	12	117 (Dec. 1946)	11	105
Mackay	..	229	861 (Mar. 1947)	641	632
Ayr	..	17	233 (Feb. 1947)	64	223
Townsville	..	127	616 (Mar. 1947)	437	489
Ingham	..	7	440 (Mar. 1947)	58	433
Innisfail	..	15	368 (Mar. 1947)	316	353
Cairns	..	77	599 (Mar. 1947)	460	522
Charters Towers	69		182 (Feb. 1947)	169	113
Atherton	..	30	78 (Mar. 1947)	45	48
Hughenden	..	3	52 (Feb. 1947)	12	49
Total State:	2,900	7,592 (Feb. 1947)	4,847	4,692	2,745

Causes by Districts.

The attached table (No. 1) shows the main causes of unemployment in each district. The totals along the bottom of the sheet show the numbers unemployed from each cause, while the totals on the right show the numbers unemployed in each district and the number unemployed per 10,000 population in main groups of districts. Although the Moreton Division numbers are the second highest, they represent a smaller proportion of the district population than is the case for any other Division, except the Downs and South West. Comparison of the rates per 10,000 population shows the highest figures for the north coast sugar areas, although the rates for these areas are much lower than for the previous month when seasonal unemployment was at its height there.

Industries by Districts.

Table No. II shows the industries in which those drawing benefit are normally engaged. The totals at the foot of the sheet give the numbers in each industry group of the State. Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying industries have the highest total (20 per cent. of the total drawing unemployment benefit), and the bulk of this is in sugar farming areas. This is followed by food and drink factories (largely meatworks and sugar mills), and building and construction.

During April, in the north coast sugar areas, there was a decrease of 564 from farms, 346 from food factories (mainly sugar mills and meatworks), and 81 from building and construction. In Rockhampton, unemployment from food factories (largely meatworks and butter factories) decreased by 140. In the south coast sugar areas, field labour unemployment decreased by 58, and food and drink factory unemployment by 38, the latter decrease probably due to increased operations of butter factories. The numbers were widely distributed through the other industry groups in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, and Townsville districts.

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Acting Government Statistician.

GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN'S OFFICE,

BRISBANE.

4th August, 1947.

TABLE I. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND,  
APRIL, 1947.

## DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

DISTRICT.	Discharged or Laid off								Quitted			Total	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only.	Shortage of Materials	Seasonal work and weather conditions.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.	Not previously employed.	Number	Per 10,000 Population
	Per 10,000 Population											Number	Per 10,000 Population
Brisbane ..	35	67	349	46	99	87	207	167	186	100	180	1,523	45
Ipswich ..	4	4	7	2	3	3	9	10	6	5	10	63	16
Moreton ..	39	71	356	48	102	90	216	177	192	105	190	1,586	31
Empie ..	.	.	4	4	.	2	.	.	1	1	4	16	16
Ryborough ..	1	4	15	1	7	9	19	7	5	10	4	82	16
Mandaberg ..	.	3	26	4	20	157	101	4	26	16	31	388	16
S.E. Coastal	1	7	45	9	27	168	120	11	32	27	39	436	41
owoomba ..	3	7	22	6	8	3	19	11	9	10	10	108	16
rwick ..	.	.	6	.	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	19	16
ma ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	.	.	.	3	3
arleville ..	.	.	.	.	.	4	3	.	.	.	1	8	16
Downs and S.W.	3	7	28	6	9	8	25	14	11	14	13	138	9
ckhampton ..	10	8	60	11	12	127	72	27	28	25	39	419	41
emerald ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	2	.	5	5
agreach ..	.	2	.	1	.	5	1	.	2	.	.	11	11
Central ..	10	10	60	12	12	132	73	29	31	27	39	435	43
okay ..	9	2	20	3	9	366	133	23	27	18	31	641	61
. ..	.	1	23	2	.	18	5	2	5	4	4	64	64
misville ..	12	11	59	6	7	153	77	25	28	30	29	437	41
ham ..	.	.	.	.	8	29	13	.	4	2	2	58	58
lisfail ..	5	.	19	2	5	220	35	3	15	9	3	316	31
rms ..	9	.	101	3	3	264	34	5	9	12	20	460	45
E. Coastal	35	14	222	16	32	1,050	297	58	88	75	89	1,976	17
arters Towers ..	6	.	23	7	5	34	37	6	21	12	18	169	16
erston ..	.	.	5	.	.	4	24	1	3	3	5	45	45
henden ..	1	.	2	1	.	3	4	.	1	.	.	12	12
orth West ..	7	.	30	8	5	41	65	7	25	15	23	226	22
AL STATE:	95	109	741	99	187	1,489	796	296	279	263	393	4,847	45

TABLE II. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.  
APRIL, 1947.

DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

DISTRICT.		Industry in Which Last Engaged.																			TOTAL.					
		Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying.		Other Primary (including mining).		Engineering.		Food and Drink.		Other Factories.		Building and Construction.		Shipping and Wharf Work.		Transport.		Wholesale.		Retail.		Previously employed by Australian or Allied Services.		Personal and Domestic Service.		Discharged Servicemen.
isbane	..	56	30	140	132	132	146	53	85	121	95	203	100	105	125	1,523										
swich	..	4	4	6	4	5	12	.	6	2	5	1	5	5	4	63										
moreton	..	60	34	146	136	137	158	53	91	123	100	204	105	110	129	1,588										
arie	..	1	2	1	2	.	1	.	2	2	2	.	3	.	.	15										
yborough	..	12	5	8	14	5	13	3	8	2	7	.	4	1	.	82										
daberg	..	137	16	10	51	9	51	42	6	11	20	6	10	8	11	388										
E.Coastal		150	23	19	67	14	65	45	16	15	29	6	17	9	11	486										
woomba	..	13	2	10	11	8	20	.	4	2	6	8	8	6	8	108										
wick	..	4	.	1	3	1	2	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	1	19										
a	..	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	CN										
rleville	..	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	1	8										
wns & S.W.		22	2	11	15	9	23	.	5	2	7	9	11	10	12	138										
hampton	..	45	19	11	148	15	41	35	12	17	23	4	18	17	14	419										
ald	..	2	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	5										
reach	..	7	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	1	11										
entral	..	54	20	12	148	15	42	35	12	17	23	4	20	17	16	435										
ay	..	241	14	10	162	20	89	4	16	9	26	5	20	14	11	641										
..	..	5	8	1	15	2	12	1	3	3	1	2	4	3	4	64										
sville	..	20	11	17	164	15	67	24	10	25	17	15	19	14	19	437										
am	..	21	2	1	17	4	6	2	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	58										
sfail	..	189	6	4	56	8	15	17	7	.	6	.	6	.	2	316										
ns	..	177	25	3	103	18	59	15	12	5	6	3	15	10	9	460										
Coastal		653	66	36	517	67	248	63	48	42	56	26	65	43	46	1,976										
ers Towers		33	12	5	34	9	34	.	11	2	5	2	4	6	12	169										
ten	..	5	5	.	1	3	15	.	9	.	2	1	.	.	4	45										
inden	..	7	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	12										
th West		45	18	6	36	12	50	.	21	2	7	3	4	6	16	226										
STATE:		984	163	230	919	254	586	196	193	201	222	252	222	195	330	4,847										

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